

Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is executing a nation-wide programme of ambient air quality monitoring known as National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP). Based on the monitoring of ambient air quality, fifty-one (51) non-attainment cities have been identified in the country in which the prescribed Respirable Particulate Matter (RSPM) levels, specified under the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), are not met. The list of cities and their pollution level is annexed in the Statement.

[Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to Unstarred Question 1097 (a) and (b)]

(c) The following specific steps have been taken for control of vehicular pollution in the country:

- (i) A road map upto 2010 has been laid down by the Expert Committee on Auto Fuel Policy for controlling Vehicular pollution from both new as well as in-use vehicles all over the country;
- (ii) Enforcement of Auto exhaust emission standards for new vehicles at manufacturing stage;
- (iii) Introduction of Euro-II emission norms for the whole country and Euro-III norms for 11 mega cities;
- (iv) Introduction of Euro-II and Euro-III compliant fuel for the whole country and 11 mega cities respectively. This includes reduction in Sulphur and Benzene contents in diesel and petrol;
- (v) Introduction of unleaded petrol in entire country. Introduction of cleaner fuels like Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) in a few polluted cities;
- (vi) Introduction of improved Pollution Under Control (PUC) certification system;
- (vii) Initiation of source-apportionment studies in six cities; and
- (viii) Introduction of Mass Transport System in selected cities.

Salary and perks of staff dealing with AIDS control programme

1109. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether his Ministry has proposed and prepared any scheme for

prevention and treatment of the patients affected by HIV/AIDS or Tuberculosis, through the State Governments and NGOs;

(b) if so, whether the salary, social security and self protection to Laboratory Assistants and such other medical technicians are fixed alongwith financial assistance to implement the scheme; and

(c) what are the steps to prevent the violations of guidelines given by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Care and Support for HIV infected persons is a component of NACP II. This has now been expanded to include free ART also. The treatment of various Opportunistic Infections, including Tuberculosis is also a part of Care and Support activity of the programme.

(b) The laboratory technicians at ART centres are employed on contract basis at Rs. 6500 per month. The Laboratory Assistants and Medical Technicians are trained on universal precautions for self protection and provided drugs for Post exposure prophylaxis in case of needle stick injury while caring for patients.

(c) The ART centre in-charge and concerned SACS are responsible for the implementation of guidelines. The ART centres are regularly visited by ART consultants from NACO.

Advertisement of soft drinks

1110. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have agreed to permit sale of soft drinks like Coca-Cola and Pepsi in hospitals and medical colleges;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have been given encouragement to sale of soft drinks;

(c) whether Government have allowed favourable advertisements of sugar-based soft drinks in movies, TV and in hospitals; and

(d) what are the reasons for this positive attitude towards obesity-enhancing soft drinks?